ORDER

ROBERT W. LEHRBURGER, United States Magistrate Judge.

Defendants request a temporary stay of these consolidated cases pending mediation, currently scheduled for March 11, 2024. (See Dkt. 37, 43.) Plaintiff opposes the request. (Dkt. 41.) The Court finds that a brief stay is appropriate so that the parties may focus efforts and resources on potential resolution of both cases. Accordingly, with

one exception, the cases are stayed until March 12, 2024. The exception is that the time for service on defendants continues to run and is not stayed. Plaintiff is responsible for ensuring that service is effected, even though the U.S. Marshal is assisting in that regard. The Court will schedule an initial pretrial conference for after April 11, 2024. Defendants are responsible for making arrangements for Plaintiff to be able to participate in the conference. The Court will issue an order if Defendants propose one for that purpose. The Clerk of Court is directed to terminate letter motions at Dkt. 37 and 41.

SO ORDERED.

ROBERT W. LEHRBURGER

UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE

Dated: February 20, 2024 New York, New York

The Court respectfully requests the Clerk of Court mail a copy of this order to the pro se Plaintiff:

Robert Derek Lurch, Jr. #24B0013 Elmira C.F. Box 500 Elmira, NY 14902